National Congress Bulletin

MARCH 1961 • PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 11 • VOL. 28, NO. 7

Dear P.T.A. President:

YESTERDAY I was de-iced. Well, not really I, but the plane I was on. It went bumbling off across the airfield like a giant insect with a crystal shell and entered a large hangar where it was made safe to start out again, in sleet and snow, on what was for me a homeward journey.

» Perhaps to undertake some comparison here is too complicated a process. Yet I could not help thinking of the countless thousands of people, the unknown hours of labor, the utilization of the known to discover the unknown, the skill, persistence, management, organization, cooperation, and determination that combined to bring me home in safety.

» All this was occasion for wonder and amazement, but it is not to be compared in value with the work that we are doing together. We are dealing with the life of the oncoming generation. The knowledge and skill that went into repairing the damaged airplane are far less than the knowledge and skill we need in order to reach our self-appointed destination: the welfare of children in home, school, church, and community. Even the closest application of the information and intent we possess may not achieve all that we plan, but it is of the utmost importance that we do everything we can. For we too have schedules to meet—the days from infancy to adulthood in the development of every child.

» We, the P.T.A., do this in innumerable ways. There is our work with parents. We must help them in their preparation for a task of incomparable consequence. This means we are one of the greatest adult education organizations in the world. Never should we hold a meeting that does not at some point give parents a better understanding of how to strengthen family life.

» Another way in which we use the strength of our organization is to encourage schools, churches, and communities to prepare boys and girls for family life better than ever before. We need to know our schools, their purposes and their needs. We must place on our communities the mark of our standards, our understanding of children and youth.

» To do these things requires the use of every talent and the application of every ability that we possess. Let us be neither sparing in our giving nor halfhearted in our effort.

» Now and then I feel a great urge to have you and your members consider with me the special needs of certain children who tug at my heart as I think of them. None of these needs can be met by you or by me alone, but many of them can be met by all the people with whom each of you works, banded together in local communities and in the nation.

» We can ask ourselves such questions as these: How can we keep every boy and girl in school so that none will drop out and lose the opportunity to develop his fullest powers? How can we discover the signs of delinquency early and devote our efforts to preventing crime and demoralization? How can we perceive in a growing personality signs that foreshadow mental and emotional breakdown? How can we teach boys and girls the recreational skills and habits that will promote their physical and social growth?

» I could name a dozen others. So could you. Let us work together, you where you are and I where I am, so that each hour and day we serve will take us closer to our destination.

» Oh, yes—before I write the final words. What about your membership this year? Are all your parents and teachers enrolled? We want to count you all in, not count even one out!

Mrs. James C. Parker

» And what about your subscriptions to "The PTA Magazine"? How wonderful it would be if each P.T.A. president took the responsibility for getting one more family to subscribe to the magazine this year! Think what the magazine could mean to that family. And so I do ask each of you—in spite of your busy days—to send in at least one subscription to the magazine between now and March 31. Do send it directly to me, so that I'll know that this message, written straight from my heart, has found its way straight to yours.

» Goodby, my friends, for now. I am leaving for a senior high school P.T.A. meeting, and students will be there, too.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. James C. Parker

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER, President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

National Congress Convention . . .

Kansas City, Missouri
May 21, 22, 23, and 24, 1961

THE Hotel Muehlebach will be the official headquarters, and convention meetings will be held in the Municipal Auditorium.

Paying for all or part of a delegate's expenses to this important parent-teacher assembly is a legitimate use of parent-teacher funds —state, district, council, and local.

KEYED TO P.T.A. NEEDS . . .

• Members of the convention management committee meet to make plans for the sixty-fifth national convention. Seated, from left: Mrs. T. W. Whaley, Texas Congress president; Mrs. Russell S. Moore, vice-president from Region IV, chairman; Mrs. Henry Carr, Missouri Congress president, member ex officio. Standing, from left: Mrs. Willis M. Van Horn, Wisconsin Congress president; Mrs. J. A. Henry, South Carolina Congress president; and Mrs. William H. Cobb, New York State Congress president.

WHAT's in store for you at the National Congress convention this year? Of this you can be sure: It holds for you a wealth of information and inspiration to take back home to your P.T.A.—enrichment for your programs during the coming year. The time and place: May 21–24, Kansas City, Missouri.

"The Image of America Begins in the Home" is the theme on which the addresses, symposiums, panel discussions, and conferences at Kansas City will center. All will be geared to help you get on with your "Family Assignments for the Sixties."

Among the distinguished speakers are Robert H. Felix, M.D., director of the National Institute of Mental Health; Richard C. Hottelet, news analyst and television commentator; Lawrence G. Derthick, assistant executive secretary for educational services, National Education Association; Evelyn Millis Duvall, author and family life consultant and director of *The PTA Magazine's* study course on adolescence.

SUNDAY, as always, is reserved for some traditional events, among them the Vesper Service and the National Life Membership dinner (see page 3). The Vesper Service address will be given by Marion D. Hanks, the First Council of the Seventy, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah.

On Monday morning Mrs. James C. Parker, National Congress president, will introduce the convention theme in her keynote message to the delegates; special guests will bring greetings from organizations with which the National Congress cooperates in carrying on its program of service; and *The PTA Magazine* awards will be presented.

1961 RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTIONS to be acted upon by the 1961 national convention are now being accepted by the resolutions committee. Units and branches may send suggested resolutions to Resolutions Committee, National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. To be considered, resolutions must be received not later than April 21, 1961.

The following members of the Executive Committee have been appointed by the president to serve on the resolutions committee: Mrs. Aaron E. Margulis, chairman, and Mrs. Karl Bader, Roy W. Gillmore, Mrs. Charles W. Reynolds, Mrs. Glenn K. Rogers, Mrs. Edward F. Ryan, and Mrs. J. Zebulon Watkins.

In accordance with *Policies and Practices*, each resolution submitted by National Congress units and branches will be acknowledged by the resolutions committee, and the committee will submit all resolutions to the Executive Committee with its recommendations.

A meeting on "Goals for Americans" Monday afternoon will take its cues from the recent report of the President's Commission on National Goals. A member of that commission—Erwin D. Canham, editor of the *Christian Science Monitor*—will give the major address.

An event with far-reaching implications for P.T.A.'s is a symposium in which certain forum findings of the 1960 White House Conference will be considered. A booklet containing the recommendations selected by a special National Congress committee, after consultation with the national chairmen, will be issued before the convention. The committee chose the recommendations that deserve priority in P.T.A. planning and action.

For that down-to-earth help with special problems that P.T.A. leaders and members are always seeking, there will be conferences in four fields of parent-teacher interest—councils, high school service, legislation, and membership. Delegates will have ample opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences with fellow P.T.A.'ers from around the country.

YOU WON'T WANT to miss these programs in Kansas City! So if you haven't already done so, write to your state congress office for a hotel reservation blank, and start making plans now to attend the P.T.A. event of the year. Next month's *Bulletin* will give you more details of the convention program.

Looking Forward to CONVENTION SUNDAY

A HEART-STIRRING occasion during our National Congress convention each year is the National Life Membership dinner on Sunday evening. Those who are privileged to attend have one important thing in common: Each has contributed in some way to the welfare of children and youth, and for this devoted service has been awarded an Honorary National Life Membership by a parent-teacher group—a state congress, a district or region, a council, or a local unit. Or the award may have been made by the National Congress in the name of every parent-teacher group and member. Our National Life Members are indeed a "selected group," of which all of us in the parent-teacher organization can rightfully be proud. And the traditional Sunday evening get-together at the national convention is planned especially for them, to give them an opportunity to get to know one another, to renew old acquaintances and make new ones, to share reminiscences and experiences.

The number of National Life Members has been growing through the years, until today there are some 1,500 names on this distinguished roster. And each name on the list, besides representing someone who has helped to make this a better world for children and youth, signifies a contribution of $50.00 added to The Endowment Fund of the National Congress—the special Fund that is allowed to gather interest for a purpose important to each of us: to broaden and extend parent-teacher work. Thus a National Life Membership has a two-way outlook: It looks back to services rendered and forward to still more service on behalf of children and youth. That's why we in the P.T.A. feel that National Life Memberships come first as a meaningful way of paying tribute to deserving persons.

Do you think of persons in your community who should be recognized for their contributions to our common cause? If you would begin plans now (well before the national convention) to honor them with National Life Memberships, you'll be able to underscore the honor by making the presentation at your state convention, at your spring conference or institute, or at a P.T.A. meeting soon. Your honorees will have time to consider the May 21 convention event, and, if your gift is on record at the National Office by May 1, their names will be added to our list of National Life Members that is prominently displayed at the national convention. You'll find details of how to request a National Life Membership on page 253 of the *Parent-Teacher Manual.*

When you send in your request for a Membership, will you please be sure to include the date you plan to present it, as well as the recipient's address? From time to time, as you know, we like to see the names of honorees in our *National Congress Bulletin,* but to make sure we don't list a name until after the award has been made, we do need to know the date of presentation. The address, of course, is necessary when we want to write to a Membership holder. We can promise not to spoil any surprise you've planned if you'll give us the whole story.

I am looking forward to the Life Membership dinner on convention Sunday, where I want to greet personally those persons who have earned the right to be National Life Members.

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD
A Director of The Endowment Fund
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

• Distinguished service as president of the Texas Congress' Fifth District and chairman of councils in the state brings Mrs. J. W. Miller (left) the P.T.A.'s top honor—Honorary National Life Membership. Here, at the district's spring conference, Mrs. Miller is being "pinned" by Mrs. Irby R. Adams, who represents the appreciative members of the Bexar County Council.

© *Beeville, Texas, Studio*

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN
700 North Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois

Volume 28 MARCH 1961 Number 7

Published monthly from September through May and bi-monthly June and July by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. Subscription price: 30 cents a year. Entered as second-class matter September 27, 1946, at the post office at Chicago, Illinois, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Additional entry at Aurora, Illinois, December 21, 1939.

Publications and National Parent-Teacher
Editorial Staff

Editor-in-chief: Eva H. Grant
Senior editors: Mary Elinore Smith, Vera Diekhoff
Production manager: Eleanor Miller
Assistant editors: Pauline Rhiner, Dorothy E. Welker

TWO DEADLINES

March 31—Deadline for count of *The PTA Magazine (National Parent-Teacher)* subscriptions that can be reported at the national convention.

April 15—Deadline for membership dues to be received at the National Office (see also the membership article on page 5).

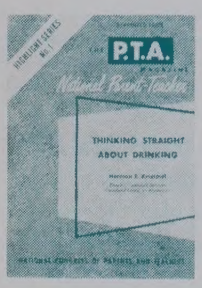
CONGRESS PUBLICATIONS
Supplied Free to P.T.A.'s

SOMETIMES when we think of membership in the P.T.A. we may overlook the great benefits that accrue to us because our P.T.A. is a unit of a state branch and the National Congress. Indeed, we frequently get so used to a certain type of service that we take it more or less for granted. Yet parent-teacher work would soon lose its vigor, appeal, and effectiveness if the unifying strength of its state and national services were curtailed.

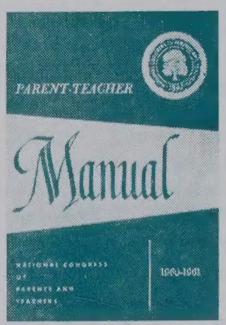
A major service that the National Congress provides each year for its local units is *free distribution of millions of copies of parent-teacher publications*—publications designed especially to help P.T.A.'s build effective leadership and informed memberships and thus strengthen their programs. Every topic of parent-teacher interest is included in one or another of the many books, pamphlets, periodicals, and leaflets supplied annually from National Headquarters by way of state congress offices.

Here, for example, is a list of the materials provided free to 46,865 local Congress units between April 15, 1960 and January 25, 1961:

Title	Quantity
Action Program, *Strengthening the Home, Source of Our Nation's Greatness*	23,431
Bylaws, National	5,420
Convention Digest, 1960	7,157
Councils of Parent-Teacher Associations	6,385
Founders Day, 1960 (*Bulletin* reprint)	69,473
Good Reading for Parents	2,600
Guiding Children as They Grow	1,300
Happy Journey	1,300
Helping Young America Grow in Freedom	281,128
How the Legislation Program Is Authorized	69,473
It's High Time	1,300
Junior Hi-Ways	2,600
Legislation Program (*Bulletin* reprint)	69,473
Legislation Recommendations (*Bulletin* reprint)	70,173
Let's Read Together: Books for Family Enjoyment	1,300
Local Unit Remittance Form	18,550
Local Unit Report Blank	65,700



• This little booklet, "Thinking Straight About Drinking," was a September 1960 addition to Congress publications for P.T.A.'s. Did your P.T.A. get its free copy? If not, please check with your state congress—now.



• No P.T.A. bookshelf is complete without copies of these National Congress publications: the current "Parent-Teacher Manual" and the Action Program, "Strengthening the Home, Source of Our Nation's Greatness."

Title	Quantity
Looking In on Your School	2,850
Magazine promotion leaflet: *Finders . . . Keepers*	69,473
Membership promotion leaflets:	
Don't Be a Dropout Parent	140,514
For Men Only	140,514
An Invitation to the Teachers of America from the P.T.A.	140,514
Why Our P.T.A. Is a Unit of the National Congress	93,676
You Are Needed in Our P.T.A.	140,514
You Belong in Our P.T.A.	140,514
Spanish Translation of *You Belong in Our P.T.A.*	3,025
Membership Cards	
(first printing)	13,790,300
(second printing)	2,038,860
(third printing)	262,900
Membership, 1960–61 (*Bulletin* reprint)	69,473
Moral and Spiritual Education	1,300
New Hope for Audiences	1,300
Organizing a P.T.A.	6,500
The P.T.A. in the Local Community	23,431
P.T.A. Public Relations: A Publicity Handbook	1,300
P.T.A. Room Representatives	69,473
Parent-Teacher Manual, 1960–61	130,946
Parent-Teacher Manual (reprints, Section I)	
Budget and Finance	51,524
Bylaws and Parliamentary Procedure	51,524
Duties of Officers	98,364
Hospitality	51,524
Planning the Program	51,524
Installation Ceremony	51,524
Policies and Guiding Principles	51,524
Parent-Teacher Manual	
Each of the following reprints of Section II were supplied in quantities of	46,865
Audio-Visual Services	
Character and Spiritual Education	
Citizenship	
Congress Publications	
Cooperation with Colleges	
Cultural Arts	
Exceptional Child	
Health	
High School Service	
International Relations	
Juvenile Protection	
Legislation	
Membership	
Mental Health	
National Parent-Teacher Magazine	
Parent and Family Life Education	
Preschool Service	
Program and Founders Day	
Publicity	
Reading and Library Service	
Recreation	
Rural Service	
Safety	
School Education	
Parents and Teachers as Partners	1,300
Plans of Work (of national chairmen)	2,290
Plans of Work insert (Cultural Arts)	7,800
Policies and Practices	2,530
Proceedings, 1959–60	3,380
Publications of Special Interest to P.T.A. Leaders and Members (publications order blank)	116,338
Raising and Using P.T.A. Funds	69,473
Schools of Instruction	3,100
Signals for Safety	1,560
Study-discussion guide for *Signals for Safety*	5,900
Statement of Principles	69,473
Such Is the P.T.A. Story	23,431
A Teacher's Guide to the P.T.A.	11,560
Thinking Straight About Drinking (Highlight Series No. 1)	69,473
What P.T.A. Members Should Know About Juvenile Delinquency	1,560
Where Children Come First	520
Working with Youth Through the High School P.T.A.	2,600
Your P.T.A.—Quality in Quantity	69,473

These figures add up to show that thus far this P.T.A. year nearly *twenty million copies* of Congress materials and publications have been distributed free. And this total soars even higher when we take into account the free student packets and supplies for state congress conventions, which included sets of all "pay" publications, sets of all "free" publications, sample copies of *The PTA Magazine*, sample copies of the *National Congress Bulletin*, copies of all the membership promotion leaflets, publications order blanks, Objects charts, and posters.

Publications distributed in quantities of 69,473 or more provided one copy for each P.T.A.; 300 copies for state board members and leaders at district and council levels; and a quantity equal to 15 per cent of the total number of associations for state extension use. Those in quantities of approximately 51,000 provided at least one copy for each P.T.A. Extra copies of each publication are always available to state congresses at cost, in case they wish to give

the publication wider distribution. Local associations may also purchase extra copies of most of these publications as well as others that are supplied on a pay basis only. They are listed in *Publications of Special Interest to P.T.A. Leaders and Members*, which is available free from the state congress.

In some cases enough copies are supplied to provide more than one copy per association, but the distribution in such instances is left to the judgment of the state leaders.

Publications that cover subjects of interest to special groups or to leaders working in certain parent-teacher areas are furnished in smaller quantities—for example, *Schools of Instruction, Convention Digest, Junior Hi-Ways, Working with Youth Through the High School P.T.A., Signals for Safety*. Sometimes publications are reprinted after the initial large distribution. These reprinted editions are usually supplied to state congresses in smaller quantities to provide for replacements, copies for new leaders, and the like.

We suggest that you check your supplies to make sure you have received the full allotment of parent-teacher publications that your national organization *provides free for you*. If you are minus any of those to which you are entitled, *please get in touch with your state president or state office*—your state congress will be glad to see that you have copies of all such publications. Sometimes mailed copies go astray, and the only way for your state leaders to know that you did not get all your materials is for *you* to tell them.

Please *do make complete use of your national and state publications services*. And do see that every piece of literature to which your association is entitled reaches the officer or chairman for whom it is intended. Through intelligent use of their publications P.T.A. leaders and members gain the knowledge and skills necessary to carry on a parent-teacher program that earns the understanding and confidence of the family, the school, and the community.

If you need any more information about any of the publications, get in touch at once with your state office. You will find the address on your membership card.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CONGRESS PUBLICATIONS

Mrs. C. Meredith Springer, chairman; *Mrs. R. J. Arnold; Mrs. Joel L. Burkitt; O. A. DeLong; Mrs. Aaron E. Margulis; Mrs. Glenn K. Rogers; James M. Rosbrow; Frances A. Sullivan; Mrs. J. Zebulon Watkins*

P.T.A.–N.C.P.T. MEMBERSHIP

12,000,001 in '61?

FOUNDERS DAY FOLLOW-UP . . . does this or some similar term appear in your P.T.A. calendar to remind you that Founders Day benefits *can* linger on—that these are the best days for turning your 1961 opportunity to additional advantage? Membership enrollment is a prime example, and it's right now too—before the national membership deadline of April 15—that your state and national congresses most need your help for scoring a successful membership year.

● Founders Day brought opportunities for you to build up public understanding and awareness of P.T.A. goals and to take inventory of P.T.A. assets, achievements, and needs. If this stock-taking led to conviction that a bigger P.T.A. membership could mean more P.T.A. progress for children and youth—and who doesn't think so?—then this is the time to enroll those additional members. P.T.A.'s were never wont to overlook opportunities!

● Your National Congress also has been sizing up the state of its membership, reports Mrs. Milton L. Wiener, chairman of the Committee on Membership. To tell you something of the membership picture as it looked on January 15 she relays this information:

22 state congresses had already topped their January 1960 membership standings.

30 congresses hadn't yet matched their last January's enrollments!

The ten state congresses whose memberships showed the largest January-over-January increases were Ohio (496,916), South Carolina (71,133), New York (40,988), Minnesota (22,348), Nevada (16,670), Tennessee (15,236), Florida (14,497), Iowa (12,511), New Jersey (12,333), and Alabama (7,857). Arizona followed with a close eleventh (7,701), and the European Congress of American Parents and Teachers had a January 15, 1961, record of 7,541 more memberships than it had last April!

● It's a good picture, Mrs. Wiener says, and she warmly congratulates the hard-working P.T.A. members who produced it. She wonders, though, how many other members who worked equally as hard and successfully aren't represented in this January 1961 picture. Many local units, it seems, did not send the state and national portions of their membership dues to their state congresses in time for their state offices to forward the "national nickels" to the National Office by December 31, deadline for the January 15 reckoning of state congress memberships.

● But this January picture is only a rough sketch, Mrs. Wiener reminds, and you still have the necessary time for finishing it in true P.T.A. style. To make it illustrate more P.T.A. members working together in common purpose, she suggests:

Continue your quest for P.T.A. members to multiply the power of your program.

Determine whether the enrollment methods you've been using are your best choices. You might do this by reviewing the membership and membership-leaflet information in the June-July *Bulletin* (reprints still available free from your state congress).

***Meet your state congress' deadline* for dues so that its final membership count will represent you and every other P.T.A. member in the state.**

Please *serve where you are* to make it 12,000,001 in 1961!

Proposed Amendments to NATIONAL CONGRESS BYLAWS

THE special committee on National Bylaws met during the September 1960 meeting of the National Board of Managers to consider suggested amendments to the Bylaws of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers. After the committee had carefully reviewed the Bylaws and the suggested changes, the National Board took action to submit the amendments to the National Congress delegate body at the 1961 convention in Kansas City, May 21–24. In order to provide all P.T.A. members with opportunity to consider the proposed amendments before the convention, they are presented here.

PRESENT FORM

Article III—Policies

Article III (Policies), *Section 1.*

The program of the Congress shall be educational and shall be developed through conferences, committees, and projects.

Article III (Policies), *Section 4, first sentence.*

The Congress shall not enter into membership with other organizations save such international or national organizations as may be approved by the National Board of Managers.

Article IV (Membership), *Section 1,a.*

Any person interested in the Objects of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers who is willing to uphold its policies and subscribe to its Bylaws may become a member upon payment of dues, as hereinafter provided.

Article V (Dues and Fees), *Section 4,d.*

The treasurers of local Congress units in unorganized areas shall remit dues annually to the national treasurer on or before April 1, accompanied by a statement giving the name and mailing address of the president of each local Congress unit.

Article VI (Fiscal Year)

The fiscal year of the National Congress shall be from April 16 through April 15 inclusive.

Article XII (Annual Convention), *Section 2,b.*

Each state branch shall be entitled to be represented at the annual convention of the National Congress by its president, three other members of the state board of managers or their alternates, and one delegate for each one thousand members or major fraction thereof, as shown on the records of the national treasurer as of April 15.

Article XXI (Parliamentary Authority).

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and all of its branches in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws of the National Congress.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Insert "BASIC" before "POLICIES," so that the title will read:

Article III—Basic Policies

Strike out the entire section, and substitute the following:

The Objects of the National Congress shall be promoted through an educational program directed toward parents, teachers, and the general public, and shall be developed through conferences, committees, and projects.

Strike out the word "save" and substitute "except," so that this part of the section will read:

The Congress shall not enter into membership with other organizations except such international or national organizations as may be approved by the National Board of Managers.

Insert the word "basic" before "policies," so that this part of the section will read:

Any person interested in the Objects of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers who is willing to uphold its basic policies and subscribe to its Bylaws may become a member upon payment of dues, as hereinafter provided.

Strike out "April 1," and substitute "March 15," so that this part of the section will read:

The treasurers of local Congress units in unorganized areas shall remit dues annually to the national treasurer on or before March 15, accompanied by a statement giving the name and mailing address of the president of each local Congress unit.

Strike out the words "April 16 through April 15," and substitute "April 1 through March 31," so that this article will read:

The fiscal year of the National Congress shall be from April 1 through March 31 inclusive.

Strike out the date "April 15," and substitute "March 31," so that this part of the section will read:

Each state branch shall be entitled to be represented at the annual convention . . . as shown on the records of the national treasurer as of March 31.

Strike out the word "inconsistent" and substitute the words "in conflict," so that this article will read:

Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the National Congress of Parents and Teachers and all of its branches in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not in conflict with these Bylaws of the National Congress.

P.T.A. BULLETIN BOARD

BRIEF ITEMS OF CURRENT INTEREST

FOR AND ABOUT P.T.A.'S

- **TO PROTECT CHILDREN** going to and from school, the Bryant School P.T.A. (Sioux City, Iowa) has set up a plan it calls "Operation B.P. (Block Parent)." In each block of the school district one home has been designated a "Block Parent Haven," and on its front door or window it displays a sign saying "B.P." in large letters. Children know that if they need help—skinned knees, teasing from schoolmates, bad weather, and so on—on their way to and from school they can find aid or shelter at a B.P. home.

- **CONCERNED BECAUSE** all the local school children were not protected against polio, the Muncy (Pennsylvania) High School P.T.A. cooperated with the Muncy Junior Chamber of Commerce and a local parents group in sponsoring inoculations for children in the two elementary schools and the high school. Local doctors, nurses, and P.T.A. members contributed their services to give more than 700 shots.

- **BECAUSE OF HER DEDICATED SERVICE** as school patrol officer, Josephine Rivers was honored by the Banks School P.T.A. (Waltham, Massachusetts). Mrs. Rivers, who reports four times daily to her post in the busiest traffic center in Waltham, has never missed a day on the job. Her philosophy: "I watch the children the way I'd want someone to watch *my* children."

- **COLOR SLIDES**—more than 100 of them—were used by the Kosciusko P.T.A. (Detroit, Michigan) in its production of "A Day at Kosciusko." The slides and the tape-recorded commentary depicted a typical day in the life of a student at the school as well as many P.T.A. projects. More than a thousand parents, teachers, and children attended five showings.

- **ENCOURAGING STUDENTS** to take advantage of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's young people's concerts has been a project of the Cold Spring Elementary P.T.A. (Kentucky). The unit helped students secure tickets at the nominal price of $1.00 for a three-concert series and also arranged for minimum-fee transportation by chartering a bus.

- **AT THE TOP OF HER LIST** of "Christmas hints to my husband" Mrs. Woods Dreyfus of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, puts: "Trip to the National Congress convention in May." And each year for the past ten years she has attended the national conventions—as a gift from her husband. Mrs. Dreyfus is a past president of the State Presidents' Club of the National Congress.

- **THE NINTH ANNUAL COLLEGE NIGHT** sponsored by Central High School P.T.A. for juniors and seniors in sixteen Scranton, Pennsylvania, public and parochial high schools attracted an audience of more than a thousand. The representatives of 32 colleges and 5 schools of nursing who participated in the program were entertained before the meetings at a dinner sponsored by the P.T.A. and the school's guidance department.

- **A SET OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES** to aid parents of teen-agers was drawn up by the Glendale and Hoover High School P.T.A.'s (Glendale, California) and published in a purse-size booklet titled *Parents Together Agree.* Incorporated into the booklet were suggestions from parents, ministers, youth leaders, and civic leaders on "Moral and Spiritual Principles," "Principles in the Home," and "Principles in Social Activities." Widespread interest in the project resulted in offers by several service groups to assist with printing costs.

• The Fathersingers of the West Lawn P.T.A. (Grand Island, Nebraska) thoroughly enjoy the singing they do at P.T.A. meetings and, at times, for other groups, even in other communities. Since its organization two years ago the group has grown to twenty-five members. Willis Stull, front row, far right, is the director, and the lady is the pianist, Mary Phelps.

MENTAL HEALTH WEEK—1961

NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH WEEK this year is scheduled for April 30 to May 6. For this event the National Association for Mental Health has briefly suggested some pertinent ideas for emphasizing its two major themes:

• Operation Friendship—visits by groups and individuals to local agencies and hospitals (1) to demonstrate their caring and interest to patients and staff and (2) to find out what the facilities are and what programs are needed.

• A Mental Health Careers Program—a program on mental health careers, providing youth with information and education experiences; a program to encourage more youth to enter the "healers of the mind" professions and become our future psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, aides, nurses, recreation workers, occupational therapists, social scientists, and research personnel.

According to William G. Hollister, M.D., national chairman of the Committee on Mental Health, "The National Congress encourages all its state congresses and local associations to join with their respective state and local mental health associations in presenting programs and conducting observances that will (1) broaden public understanding of mental illness and (2) increase public support of programs to improve mental health."

"Parents Ask About School"

• Last fall the National Education Association prepared a special 15-minute "Back to School" radio tape, titled "Parents Ask About School," which it distributed to radio broadcasters around the country. On the taped program four outstanding teachers, in a round-table discussion moderated by William G. Carr, N.E.A. executive secretary, answer questions supplied by the National Congress of Parents and Teachers—questions about new teaching methods, school curriculums and routines, extra-curricular activities, homework, report cards, I.Q. tests, and school expenses.

Since September the tape has been used on more than a thousand radio stations. It is available now, free of charge on a loan basis, to P.T.A.'s and other groups for use at meetings or on radio broadcasts. Inquiries about the tape should be made directly to Roy K. Wilson, Division of Press and Radio Relations, N.E.A., 1201 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Announcing:

THE PTA MAGAZINE

• EVERY NOW AND THEN something many people hoped would happen actually happens. The specific "something" to which we refer is the change in the name of our official magazine from *National Parent-Teacher* to *The PTA Magazine*. This change, which you noted on the cover of the February 1961 issue, was made not with a fanfare of advance publicity but with deep affirmation of the close kinship between the parent-teacher organization and its official magazine. Here, in part, is what the editorial "What's in a Name?" says about the magazine's birthright name in the February issue:

"Proudly we announce to the world that now and henceforth we are in name, as we have always been in fact, *The PTA Magazine*.

"What's in a name? A name is an identity. A name is a family. A name is belonging.

"This magazine belongs to the P.T.A. As the image and instrument of the parent-teacher organization, it has an identity—unmistakable, strong, individual, and beloved. And now, with pride, it bears the family name, P.T.A."

"Lights On for Education" in Oregon

• On the evening of January 5, 1961, lights were burning in schools throughout Oregon as citizens in every community met to discuss legislation proposed for their schools and relating to the welfare of children and youth in the state. Timed to come just before the convening of the Oregon Legislature on January 9, these "Lights On for Education" programs were sponsored by the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Oregon Education Association, and the Oregon School Boards Association.

The programs provided information on possible forthcoming legislation, informed citizens of where and how they could get information, outlined the Oregon legislative procedure, and focused interest and attention on the needs of Oregon's children and youth.

In many cases the local committees in charge of setting up the program decided to continue their responsibilities throughout the 1961 legislative session in order to maintain close contact with local legislators, follow progress of bills, and perhaps be ready to set up another public meeting during the session to discuss progress of vital measures.

√ CHECK YOUR CALENDAR

Teaching Career Month, April 1–30. Sponsored by the National Education Association.

World Health Day, April 7.

National Boys' Club Week, April 10–16.

Pan American Day, April 14.

National Library Week, April 16–22.

1961 National Congress Convention, May 21–24, Kansas City, Missouri